SPEECH

OF

SHRI DEVENDRA FADNAVIS Deputy Chief Minister (Finance)

On the Budget Estimates, 2023-2024 of the Government of Maharashtra in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday, the 9th March 2023

PART - II



Honourable Speaker,

Now I present Part II of the Budget before the House.

- 1. State's Own Tax Revenue is Rs. 2,75,786 crores for the year 2022-23 as per the Revised Estimates. In this, the share of Goods and Services Tax (GST), Value Added Tax (VAT), Stamp Duty and Registration fee and State Excise Duty is of Rs. 2,43,411 crores.
- 2. The Budget Estimate for State's Own Tax Revenue has been fixed at Rs. 2,98,181 crores for the year 2023-24. I am fully confident that this target will be achieved through various economic measures proposed by the State Government.
- 3. I present the following proposals for women empowerment, to provide relief to tax payers and to propel the economy through enhancement in government revenue.

Profession Tax waiver to women 4. At present employed women have to pay Profession Tax if their salary is more than Rs. 10,000 per month. It is proposed to enhance this limit to Rs. 25,000 to increase the purchasing power of women. Hereafter, women with a monthly salary of up to Rs. 25,000 will not have to pay any Profession Tax.

Profession Tax waiver to Persons with Disability

5. The definition of 'Person with Disability' in the Profession Tax Act is proposed to be amended as per the definition given in the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. This proposed amendment will not only enable inclusion of more number of disabled persons to be eligible for Profession Tax exemption, but also simplify the present process of taking exemption.

Reduction of Value Aviation

6. I propose to reduce the rate of Value Added Tax (VAT) Added Tax on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) from 25 per cent to 18 (VAT) on per cent, equivalent to Bangalore and Goa, in the Turbine geographical areas of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, Fuel Pune Municipal Corporation and Raigad District with a view to encourage air transport and to accelerate economic growth.

Amnesty Scheme for

- I announce an Amnesty Scheme, 'Maharashtra GST Settlement of Arrears of Tax, Interest, Penalty or Late Fee Department Act, 2023' in respect of various laws implemented by the State Tax Department prior to the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax Act. This Amnesty Scheme will be in force from 1st May 2023 to 31st October 2023. This scheme will be applicable for the arrears pending as on 1st May 2023.
 - I propose full waiver of arrears, if the arrears for any year is Rs. 2 lakhs or less as per statutory order. This will benefit small traders in nearly one lakh cases.
 - Dealers having arrears up to Rs. 50 lakhs or less as per statutory order will pay only 20 per cent amount of arrears and the remaining 80 per cent will be waived. As a result small and medium dealers will be benefited in around eighty thousand cases.

I am hopeful that the Honourable members of this August House will support my proposals.

Today, being '*Tukaram beej*', Jagad Guru Shri Tukaram Maharaj's *Abhang* has been quoted in my speech

Tukobaraya used to say...

" स्वप्नींही दुःख कोणी न देखे डोळा "

This was his concept of 'Ram Rajya'.

Dnyanoba Mauli says

दुरितांचे तिमिर जावो। विश्व खधर्म सूर्ये पाहो । जो जे वांछिल तो ते लाहो। प्राणिजात ।।

This is the *PRASADIK* message of this budget, These are our sincere feelings.

The similar action will be taken by the State Government.

Jai Hind! Jai Maharashtra!!
